

REMARKS

Allowed Claims

Claims 2, 4-27, 50-52, 54 and 56-66 are allowed. Applicants thank the Examiner for this indication of allowance. These claims remain unchanged and pending in the application. Further to a telephone call with the Examiner on 1/10/06, Applicants note for the record that Claim 67 was erroneously indicated as allowable. Accordingly, Claim 67 is canceled along with the other non-allowed claims.

The §103 Rejections


Claims 29-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of the combination of U.S. Patent No. 6,289,288 to Kuwahara and U.S. Patent No. 6,233,448 to Alperovich. Claims 36-47 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,289,288 to Kuwahara. Claims 29-47 have been canceled rendering the rejections moot.

Conclusion

Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests that this application be allowed and forwarded on to issuance.

Respectfully Submitted,

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By: 
Eric J. Gash
Reg. No. 46,274
Attorney for Applicants